



State of Arizona

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STATEMENT ON LAW ENFORCEMENT SHOOTING IN PINAL COUNTY BY GOVERNOR JAN BREWER

"My prayers and those of many are with the Pinal County Sheriff's deputy who was shot earlier this evening. It appears from early reports I have received that the deputy will fully recover from his gunshot wound. The hunt for the perpetrators of this attack is still underway, and our state, local, tribal, and federal law enforcement officers in Arizona will continue to do their very best to bring them quickly to justice.

"I am outraged by this attack against this deputy and the people of Arizona that he is sworn to protect.

"Although there is no confirmation at this time that the criminals involved in this evening's violence are drug smugglers, this incident occurred in a known drug trafficking corridor, and law enforcement believes that the five suspects being sought were walking through the middle of the desert with backpacks and at least one automatic weapon. Border Patrol agents are deeply involved in this search.

"As we have seen in the past, drug smugglers and cartel members invading our state are not innocent fathers and mothers longing for a better life for their family. Regardless of the outcome of tonight's manhunt and investigation, Arizona is now confronted by some of the most vicious and dangerous narco-terror organizations the world has seen. Their cause is not honest labor in desperate need of sustenance; it is murder, terror and mayhem in furtherance of a multi-billion dollar criminal enterprise.

"The horrendous violence we see by narco-terrorists is uncontrolled, and our own federal government refuses to fulfill its responsibility to secure our border."

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